

SANTA FE AABC BASEBALL & SOFTBALL PROGRAM GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

- Official Scorebook must be signed by both coaches and pitching statistics recorded after every game. By signing, each is validating the pitching/game statistics. Failure to document pitching statistics could result in disciplinary action at the discretion of the president.
- SFABC highly emphasizes that all players are played every game.
 - All players must play at least two (2) innings at defense and must bat at least one (1) time per game.
 - If a manager does not comply with the above rules, **the team MAY forfeit a game if the president or his designee determines the coach intentionally violated the rules and purposely did not make any attempt to get the child in the game.**
 - If a player does not play two (2) innings, the player must start the next game and play his previous game's obligation, in addition to current game's obligation.
EXAMPLE: If a player only played one inning, he must start the next game, play three consecutive innings and bat twice.
- Open substitution is permitted, provided the batting order does not change and that playing time requirement is adhered to.
- **Any player/manager/coach/spectator ejected by an umpire must leave the park immediately (within three (3) minutes) or forfeit that game. The president or his designee will determine if the infraction justifies additional game(s) suspension or further disciplinary action.**

RULES OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES, PARTICIPANTS, PARENTS/GUARDIANS AND SPECTATORS

Any person(s) participating in SFAABC in any capacity (coach, participant, parent, sponsor, spectator, or official) is strictly prohibited from consuming any alcoholic beverages and/or drugs/controlled substances on any practice or game field before, during, or after any practice or game or any other team related function. It should also be noted that alcohol and/or drugs/controlled substances are not permitted on the SFAABC facilities at any time. Additionally, the use of profanity, physical abuse, verbal abuse (including demeaning another team), hitting, kicking, or taunting any individual will not be tolerated by SFAABC. Any violation of these policies by any SFAABC participant will be dealt with swiftly and severely by the league president or his designee without exception!!! Violation of any of the policies described above could result in the temporary or permanent disbarment of the offending individual from any participation in SFAABC.

- Late games will start no later than 10 minutes following the first game or as soon as the field maintenance is complete whichever comes first.
- Make-up games, games NOT completed or started due to inclement weather or some other unforeseen situations, will resume at the discretion of the League President.
- Game time is forfeit time. **To be enforced by plate umpire.**
- Only manager or designated coach can come out of the dugout to get rule interpretations. Each team will be given only 2 time outs.
- Protests can be made on rules only and shall be decided by the governing Protest Committee. An appeal may be filed with the designated field monitor and/or President or Board member present, but only if the appeal is made at the time of the original ruling. Such appeal must be accompanied by a fee of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), cash, at the time of protest. Written appeal must be received by President within 24 hours of protest. Fee will be returned only if appeal is upheld, otherwise it will be donated a charity of the team's choice.
- Rules are subject to change at the discretion of the President with the concurrence of the Board of Directors and with proper notification to the Managers.
- Rule precedence shall be in the following order.
 - SFAABC Rules
 - AABC Handbook FOR BASEBALL
 - Major League Rules FOR BASEBALL
 - High School Rules FOR SOFTBALL

GENERAL RULES DIAGRAM

	Softball 15U	Softball 12U	Softball 9U	12U	10U	8U	6U	4U
Mound distance	43	40	N/A	50'6	46	40	N/A	N/A
Base Distance	60	60	60	70	65	60	60	40
Pitching Circle	18	18	18	N/A	N/A	18	18	N/A
Game times	See game schedule	See game schedule	See game schedule	See game schedule	See game schedule	See game schedule	See game schedule	See game schedule
Home team	3rd dugout/scorebook	3rd dugout/scorebook	3rd dugout/scorebook	3rd dugout/scorebook	3rd dugout/scorebook	3rd dugout/scorebook	3rd dugout/scorebook	3rd dugout
Max innings	6	6	5	7	6	6	5	4
Playing requirement	2 field/1 bat	2 field/1 bat	2 field/1 bat	2 field/1 bat	2 field/1 bat	2 field/1 bat	2 field/1 bat	2 field/2bat
Team may bat up to	11	11	Full Line-up	11	11	11	Full Line-up	Full Line-up
Per half inning till 4th	3 outs/6 runs	3 outs/6 runs	3 outs/6 runs/Full Line-up	3 outs/6runs	3 outs/6 runs	3 outs/6 runs	3 outs/6 runs/Full Line-up	Full Line-up
Base stealing	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes when ball crosses	No	No
Courtesy runner	Yes/ last out	Yes/ last out	No	Yes/last out	Yes/last out	Yes/last out	No	No
Advance home	anytime	anytime	hit/walk	anytime	anytime	hit/walk	hit/walk	hit
Base advancing	anytime	anytime	Not when pitcher has ball in circle	anytime	anytime	Not when pitcher has ball in circle	Not when pitcher has ball in circle	No
Advance to 1st on drop 3rd strike	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Team may field up to	10	10	10	9	9	9	10	12
Pitcher innings	No restriction	No restriction	N/A	See pitch count	See pitch count	See pitch count	N/A	N/A
Balk rule	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Mercy rule	8 @5/10@4/15@3	8 @5/10@4/15@3	8 @4/15@3	8 @5/10@4/15@3	8 @4/15@3	8 @4/15@3	8 @4/15@3	N/A
Time-outs	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
No new inning after	1 hr. 30 min.	1 hr. 30 min.	1 hr.	1 hr. 30 min.	1 hr. 30 min.	1 hr. 30 min.	1 hr.	1 hr.
Drop dead	1 hr. 45 min.	1 hr. 45 min.	1 hr. 15 min.	1 hr. 45 min.	1 hr. 45 min.	1 hr. 45 min.	1 hr. 15 min.	1 hr. 15 min.
Rules subject to change	With notification	With notification	With notification	With notification	With notification	With notification	With notification	With notification

PITCHING RULES (BASEBALL ONLY)

AGE	DAILY MAX (PITCHES IN GAME)	0 DAYS	1 DAYS	2 DAYS	3 DAYS	4 DAYS
8U	50	1-20	21-35	36-50	N/A	N/A
10U	75	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+
12U	85	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+
14U	95	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+

SPECIAL RULES CONSIDERATIONS FOR 6U COACH PITCH BASEBALL AND 9U COACH PITCH SOFTBALL

- Coaches will pitch to the players on their own team.
 - ◆ Umpire will call balls/strikes
 - The batter may not advance to first base following a called 3rd strike
 - Three strikes will constitute an out
 - Walks (4 balls) are not encouraged, but may be used as a discretionary measure to get a child on base.
- The coach pitching CANNOT make defensive plays in the field off a hit ball. This is the responsibility of the fielding team. The fielding team will have a player on the field behind the coach pitching who will play as a normal fielder.
- Base runners cannot advance if the ball is returned to the pitcher prior to the base runner reaching their next base. If the runner is advancing prior to the pitcher (coach) catching the ball, it's the coaches' responsibility to throw the ball to the fielder at the next base.
- Coaches may pitch to another coach who will act as the catcher or to a catcher on the opposing team if they have one that is capable of moving the game along. As a minimum, the catcher from the fielding team will stand behind a coach catching the pitches and the player will be responsible for making plays at home plate.
- Kids will NOT pitch in coach pitch programs.
- Stealing is **NOT** permitted. However, the runner may lead off (start advancing to the next base) after the pitched ball crosses home plate. The runner is not permitted to advance to the next base unless the batter hits the ball into fair play.
- A runner may not advance from third to home unless the following applies:
 - ◆ Batter hits the ball or A base on balls forces the runner home.

SPECIAL RULES CONSIDERATIONS FOR 4U T-BALL

- No more than 12 players on the defense at any one time
- Teams will bat every player, every inning
- Every player must field at least 2 times and bat every inning
- Defense may have no more than one coach in outfield and one coach in infield to help kids position correctly
- Offense may have one coach at each base to assist runners
- Coaches may use a tee to start with, however it's important for team to progress into a coach pitch system towards end of year
- Only approved coaches with appropriate background checks may be on field assisting kids. NO EXCEPTIONS.